

Wed. July 4,

19 East Cherty Fourth St.  
Madison Avenue.

My dear Father Gray,

I received yesterday  
a cable despatch announcing  
my dear father's death at  
Blackheath the day before -  
I have no details - On Wednes-  
day received despatch: "Father  
seriously ill." - He would have  
completed his 83<sup>rd</sup> year next  
June - You are one of the  
very few in this country who  
with sympathy with me, possess  
personal knowledge of all I have

lost. One's life is so bound  
up in a father's, that in  
losing him a part of ~~with~~ it  
seems to go with him - He  
was the only remaining tie to  
my earlier years - which now  
seem cut away. -

I knew he was willing to  
die, tho' loath to leave his  
younger children who were with  
him & to whom he was so dear -  
but we do not get reconciled  
to such partings, tho' they are the  
experience of every day.

Very sincerely yours, dear Dr.

S. A. King.

London 28 March 1880